

EDITORIALS

No Bounce Check

A new machine introduced to take the bounce out of bad checks, has proved highly effective in limited tests. The machine is nothing more than a camera, which takes the picture of all customers who ask to have checks cashed.

The first tests of the machine were disappointing some months ago — because the two lenses seemed to frighten some customers. The machine's developer, Fred Warren, of Sun Valley, California, then redesigned the camera so that it looked more like a modern soft drink dispenser.

In fact, the lenses are almost unnoticed by most customers, since they are placed on front of the machine in V-shaped slot that looks like anything but a slot for a camera lens. Two lenses are needed. A picture of both the check and the customer is necessary.

One retail grocery store reported recently that bad check losses had dropped from more than a thousand dollars a month to less than a hundred after installation of the new machine. It seems people passing bad checks prefer to go to stores where cameras are not used in cashing them.

If the new machine, and (or) similar ones become widely used in the retail stores of the country, a way might finally have been found to cut down the enormous loss suffered each year by merchants in bad check counts. The national "take," in this racket, is estimated close to \$25,000,000.

U. N. Failure

A sad commentary on the effectiveness of the United Nations as a world peace body is seen in the inaction and inability of the U. N. to do anything about the present situation in Indochina. Although a war has been going on in this country for seven years, the United Nations has not yet been able to do anything to stop the fighting.

Since the U. N. has been able to make no significant contribution to the settlement of the war, at present the world's hopes seem to rest on the outcome of negotiations being carried on by several major countries of the world on their own, at Geneva. The first test the United Nations must pass—the same test which that organization faced upon its origination—is the test whether it can enforce its edicts.

If an international body has no police power to enforce its decisions, it is reduced to nothing more than a debating society when the final crisis of a major dispute between major nations arises. U. N. members have not yet been able to create a U. N. police force, and when the United Nations failed to back up its order to Arabs and Jews to end their fighting several years ago, the world body lost prestige all over the world.

In the Korean War, the United Nations was officially active, but it is well known that the United States actually took the lead in settling that affair. And had not the United States carried the ball, and provided the great majority of troops needed, the United Nations would have been helpless to settle this dispute.

Secondary Roads

The opinion expressed recently by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn that Los Angeles county may be depending too much on freeway development to solve the traffic problem, strikes us as having merit.

We don't know the statistics but it is probable that secondary highways and roads are as important or, perhaps, more important than freeways. Further, improvement of secondary roads can be done immediately while it will take years to complete the freeway system.

For the amount of traffic it carries, Del Amo boulevard is a distinctly antiquated thoroughfare. There are others all over the county, carrying heavy traffic, that have been out-moded for years.

The bond issue to be voted upon on a special ballot in the November general election, offers the opportunity for citizens to make their wishes known on the immediate future of secondary roads. If approved, such important arterial links as Del Amo will be immediately improved and motorists will enjoy convenience and safety.

Aid to Colleges

Business giving to the colleges seems necessary because of financial troubles which have plagued even the strongest private colleges since 1945. These troubles were caused largely by inflation which doubled educational costs and by reduced endowment funds. In 1942 private colleges paid one-fourth of their expenses with earnings from endowed funds. Today they are able to pay only slightly more than 10 per cent.

College financing is further complicated by the fact that almost every college loses money on each student. To charge the full amount necessary to cover costs would limit, higher education to the wealthy and eventually destroy our American system of democracy.

In the past business corporations have been slow to support the independent colleges, since many of them are liberal art institutions. Businessmen have chosen, instead, to make gifts to institutions preparing men and women directly for industrial jobs.

Recently, however, business leaders discovered that the liberal arts colleges benefit business enterprise just as directly as do the trade schools. They point to the high percentage of business executives trained in the liberal arts colleges as justification for corporation gifts. Also, they have begun to regard the non-tax supported colleges as representing free enterprise in the educational world.

Civil Defense Needs

Federal Civil Defense Administrator Val Peterson recently told the nation's Governors civilian defense was still necessary and feasible. Peterson spoke before a group of the states' executives who had come to Washington at the request of President Eisenhower for White House conferences on several issues.

The recent advent of the hydrogen bomb has misled some people on the question of civilian defense, Peterson says. The hydrogen bomb's appearance on the scene makes civil defense more necessary than ever before, he said.

We agree with Peterson that the arrival of the hydrogen bomb makes it even more imperative than before to devise systems of quick evacuation from this country's large cities. It is true that there is no adequate defense against the hydrogen bomb and, therefore, the only defense is to get away from where it is exploded. Logical targets for these bombs are large industrial areas and the nation's largest cities.

In case of an enemy air attack, these cities should be evacuated in a matter of a very few hours. Whether this is actually physically possible or not remains to be seen, but if residents of the city are to be saved, they will have to be evacuated. Nothing has yet been devised to withstand the impact of a weapon as destructive as the hydrogen bomb.

Flying Saucers

We are coming into the flying saucer season, according to Air Force officials. The meteor showers, so easily seen in the heavens in summer, always bring about a flurry of flying saucer sightings.

Reports from citizens claiming to have seen the saucers have declined since 1952. Better education about flying machines and more thorough scientific investigations are credited with having reduced the reports and calmed the nerves of those inclined to let their imaginations run away with them.

Yet the Air Force has not denied the credibility of some of the reports. They report that many have come from highly reliable sources, they don't discourage the reports, either. If you see what appears to be a flying saucer you are invited to write to the Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

A former Marine officer has written a book insisting that flying saucers do exist and that the Air Force knows it. There have been all sorts of tales growing out of the fascinating phenomena. Some is plain folklore, some high good humor and some tales have experts really guessing.

The public hereabouts was invited to attend a lecture last week given by a man who claimed to have ridden back and forth across the nation in a fantastically short time on a flying saucer. We're sorry we missed the lecture, sorrier still we missed the ride.

Billion "Bonus-Baby" Bust



Criswell Predicts

An Accurate Glimpse of the Future

Criswell will answer your questions if you will write him in care of the Torrance Herald, signing your full name and address. Only initials will be used in the answers which will appear in rotation as received and as space permits. There is no charge for this service. Write Criswell Predicts today!

WHAT PEOPLE WILL DO:

Here is what I consider will be one of the most important predictions in my entire career: I predict that the New Industrial South will win out over the Old Industrial North within the next three years! Although it may have taken the better part of a century, the North will awaken to find out that the South won the Civil War! Watch for the South to come into a new era of prosperity and importance to the rest of the world! . . .

Milton Eisenhower, the brother to our President, will soon embark on a hush-hush mission to Spain, which will be most successful! . . . Josephine Baker, the Negro dancer who captivated the world, will lose favor with the American public and for her pro-communist views and actions! . . .

Bobo Rockefeller will be the number one girl in the headlines next month for her final settlement of alimony plus her announcement of her next marriage, which will shock everyone! . . . Red Skelton, the funny man, will face public censure for his recent escapades which were in very poor taste. Mr. Skelton's next television series will be filmed with animated cartoons instead of actual actors! . . .

Sloan Simpson will write of her private life as the wife of Ex-Ambassador William O. Dwyer in Mexico, in which she will reveal some behind the scenes political string pulling which will not look very good in print! . . . Queen Elizabeth should watch her health a little more closely than she has been doing! . . . Ex-Vice President Wallace will come back into public life in not too flattering a role! . . .

COMING HUSH HUSH EVENTS:

Deportation papers are quietly being prepared for many of the known Communists who have become American citizens, and these will be served within the next three months! . . . One of our largest hat manufacturers will quietly retool for the making of berets, for that will be the coming fad for men! . . . One of our largest hotel chains which have always frowned on and prohibited dogs on their sacred premises, will have a change of heart and will permit pets of all kinds due to the great loss of business because of the great popularity of pets! . . . The news will soon reach you that a famed Cafe Society hostess is slowly dying of that dread disease, cancer, and nothing can be done for her! . . .

WATCH OUT FOR THIS FRAUD:

A man will knock on your door and will tell you that he will repair the walls of your living room any color you

choose free of charge just for the advertisement, as you are well known in your area and you would recommend others to use his product. You sign an "agreement" with him, and he paints one side of the room. He then demands an exorbitant sum to finish the other three sides and points to the agreement. True, in this agreement, he promises in very small type to only paint "one side of the room" and you agree to pay him to paint the other three sides a "contract price." There is nothing you can do but to pay off this fraud, for you have signed an iron bound contract! If this man is working in your area, call the police at once! Only contract through well known, reputable firms! . . .

A VERY FAMOUS PREDICTION:

In 1543 Nostradamus predicted in his Centuries "Upon the passing of the Great Wind (the orator who was Roosevelt) his place will be taken by a bon-homme" (the two words used in this rare hyphenated manner would place the words "true" and "man" together, which would give us the phrase "Truman." Nostradamus further predicted that this true-man would be "a father, a fighter and a musician." Mr. Truman was a father, was an ex-soldier from World War One, a fighter in personal life plus an expert piano player! Nostradamus also predicted that following Mr. Truman would be "A general and a man of God" which certainly fits President Eisenhower! Next week I will further trace these famed predictions and give you Nostradamus' choice for 1955's winner! . . .

Mrs. F. 88 G.—Consult your attorney at once regarding this matter and see exactly what your legal rights are. You tell me that your husband very often told you he would rather see you dead than alive and only married you because you were heavily insured. You will truly have the last laugh, and I know the results will work out to your advantage. . . .

A. E. O.—Your plight was covered by insurance and you must certainly be entitled to damages. Do not sit idle but pursue this matter and I know that you will be well taken care of. . . .

Mrs. Mazie L.—I know how trying your grandfather has been for he is old and senile, but you will bide your time for I know this woman will wish to marry him and he will soon be out of your way once more. Make the spare room into a sewing room as you have planned for in this way you will have an excuse not to receive houseguests you do not desire. . . .

Mrs. Tina S. 304—This man is a drunk and a tramp and the children would not be safe with him. Handle this through the courts, for I know they will grant you temporary custody of your grandchildren. When your daughter is released from the hospital, she should not return to her husband. . . .

Erna W.—By all means make a full report of this incident, for these men should be apprehended and placed in custody. Your neighborhood is not safe while these culprits are at large. It is amazing you came through this terrible situation unharmed. . . .

Claude K. P.—You should seek another position in a sales category during your free time. Do not leave this job until you have obtained something more to your liking. You should work on a commission basis for I feel you will make an excellent living in that manner. . . .

Hospital Plans

Editor, As a business man and a builder I would like to give this thought to the people of Torrance, the Doctors and the Hospital Board, and bring to light a few facts, especially for the many newcomers to Torrance area, served by the Torrance Hospital. . . .

I have always been sorry that I could not do more and say more 20 years ago when the City Council put the Torrance Library on Post and Cravens instead of in the Civic Center at El Prado and Cravens. The reason for this was a total of \$2000 in the price of the lot. . . .

I believe that now is the time to use foresight for hospitalization for the city of Torrance. Building two wings to the present Hospital will only take care of present needs. What of two years from now? . . .

These things should have been given thought 15 years ago. It is not too late to plan for future building and parking. . . .

You can build a connected hospital of the same size proposed, by purchasing the corner lot, which is offered the hospital at no profit. This plan would not exceed the cost of the proposed two wings and still retain the beauty of the present site and also allow for future expansion. . . .

It's Your Country

By JOHN W. BECK

Fare in Caucus Room

SOAP OPERA OVER: The nation's longest television show is over. It has been an expensive and curious spectacle, at times dramatic and interesting, at times tediously monotonous. Its monetary cost to the American taxpayers may never be known. But however large that cost may be, a vastly higher price has been paid through the suspension of a senate subcommittee's investigations into communist activities while that subcommittee's chairman and staff have been subjected to a useless and stupid investigation.

The original charges of Army Secretary Stevens and his chief counsel, Adams, and the answering statements of Senator McCarthy and his staff, have more often than not been lost sight of as the hearings strayed far afield. The matter of relevancy has not been observed in the hearings. It has been, they would not have dragged through some thirty-odd laborious days.

Since relevancy was not observed, and since far more vital issues than the army career of Pvt. G. David Shine were brought into the hearings and then not resolved, the American people, at times referred to as "the jury," have been cheated. For this, it seems obvious that the subcommittee is to blame.

POLITICAL JOCKEYING

The Democrats on the subcommittee seemed chiefly interested in bringing out evidence to discredit the Republican administration and incidentally Senator McCarthy, while the Republican members seemed bent upon protecting the administration at all costs. Thus the whole thing turned into political jockeying along party lines, with David Shine used as camouflage whenever the political jockeying got to the point where it was too obvious.

In all of this the best interests of the nation have not been served, since the people have been cheated of testimony which would have shed light not only upon the original issues, but upon other issues which were introduced into the hearings and which were of far graver consequence to the nation.

It seems glaringly obvious that the testimony of General Lawton would have been especially illuminating, though perhaps embarrassing to Secretary Stevens and the White House. If General Lawton was the victim of reprisals for his cooperation with the McCarthy committee, as was strongly indicated, the people have a right to know this. The subcommittee's failure to call General Lawton can lead to only one conclusion—that his testimony would have been embarrassing, or worse, to the administration. This, in effect, is putting party before country. . . .

PREJUDICED JUDGE

Another instance in which the subcommittee did not keep faith with the people was when it

was shown that certain Democratic members, Senator Symington in particular, had held conferences with Secretary Stevens relative to bringing the charges against Senator McCarthy and his staff, and had gone so far as to secure for Stevens the advice of the former Truman counsel, Clark Clifford.

While it is true that Senator Symington could not be subpoenaed, it will remain forever to his discredit that he did not voluntarily take the same stand and tell what part he had played in framing the charges against Senator McCarthy. It is even more to the discredit of the subcommittee that it did not require Symington to withdraw from sitting in judgment on charges which he himself had helped to instigate.

No one knows just what information would have been elicited from Clark Clifford had he been called to testify. It is known, however, from Symington's statements and from his monitored telephone calls, that Stevens sought, or at least accepted, the counsel of Clifford in the preparation of his charges. This does not sound well for the administration, and doubtless the sworn testimony of Clifford would have sounded worse, but the people were entitled to the full truth. . . .

UNSAVORY ACTION

In a representative form of government where officeholders, whether elected or appointed, are supposed to be the servants of the people, this concealment of facts, this sweeping of dirt under the rug in order to protect the political fortunes of any party or of any individual is the very principles upon which representative government is founded. . . .

During the past 20 years and right up to the present time we have seen far too many instances of such concealment in the executive branch of our government. To see it now in the legislative branch, as we have seen it in these senate subcommittee hearings, can only further weaken the faith and confidence of the people in the leadership of both our major political parties. . . .

When the Eisenhower curtain fell to reveal the concealment of the activities of the White House staff in what plainly was a "get McCarthy" scheme it was a shocking incident. And when in the second instance the Republican members of the subcommittee tried to force the president's hand on the issue of executive secrecy, which plainly did not involve national security, they gave it a cloak of sanctity which can only be considered as a betrayal of the trust placed in them by their electors. . . .

In this case we have witnessed testimonial to Thomas Jefferson's famous words: "In questions of power, let no more be said of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution." . . .

THE MAIL BOX

(The Torrance Herald welcomes expressions from its readers which can be published on this page. The editors retain the right to edit the copy for matters of style and good taste. Names must be signed. The writer's name will be withheld if requested. Opinions expressed in letters here published represent those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Torrance Herald.)

An Open Letter

Editor, AN OPEN LETTER TO THE TORRANCE HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION:

I am aware of your efforts on behalf of the Torrance Hospital for expanded facilities. However, according to statistics presented by you, the proposed expansion does not meet the present requirements. It would appear that an additional 150 beds, rather than the proposed 38, would be closer to answering the needs of our fast growing community. . . .

The proposed addition, violating all set-back regulations, and permanently detracting from the beauty of Engracia Avenue, ignores adequate present needs and does not provide for future growth. It is shortsighted planning, since there can be no question that with the continuing rapid growth of Torrance, the proposed expansion would be grossly inadequate within a few years, and we would again have to face the same problem. . . .

Over a year ago, when the Christian Church moved from its location on Engracia Avenue, adjoining the hospital, Mr. Sam Levy purchased this property in order to prevent it from coming into the hands of speculators, and with the intent that he would transfer it to the hospital, without profit, in order that a logical expansion might be accomplished. For reasons unknown to me, you did not see

fit to acquire this property, and as a protection against another church purchasing it and thereby causing further congestion and parking problems on Engracia Avenue, and since our youth activities program was inadequate, I recently purchased this property for a youth center, at the original purchase price. . . .

Since it is fitting and proper that the hospital should expand at its present location, and it is a happy circumstance that there is adjoining property which can be used, and a modern two-story addition constructed, the Church of the Nativity, in order to work out mutual problems, is willing to transfer this property to the hospital at original cost. . . .

There are many civic minded residents of Torrance, Redondo, Hermosa, Manhattan, and all of the areas that this hospital serves, who, together with the sixty staff doctors of these communities, could successfully undertake, as a community project, a drive to secure the necessary funds for this purpose. In this manner, a long-range program can be accomplished and adequate provision made for the future needs and growth of the hospital. . . .

I will be glad to meet with your committee at your earliest convenience in a spirit of fraternity and cooperation. Very sincerely yours, Rev. Patrick J. McGuinness (More "LETTERS" on Page 9)

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